

Introduction

The 2003 edition of the Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is a summary of data compiled from vital event records for the 2003 calendar year. The content of this report includes summaries of vital events such as live births, stillbirths, abortions, deaths, marriages, and marriage dissolutions documented by certificates and reports filed with the Office of Vital Statistics, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics.

This document provides its users with an overview of the events contributing to the health status of Kansans. The facts contained in this report are essential for effective health policy decisions and program planning. It is designed to provide governmental agencies, businesses, industries, and citizens with information on vital statistics in Kansas.

Comments concerning the format or content of this report are welcomed. The Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is a **summary** of the health data collected by the State of Kansas on vital events. More detailed information is available upon request. The information contained in this report may be obtained electronically by contacting the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, Office of Health Care Information (785-296-5644) or e-mail ksommer@kdhe.state.ks.us. The Annual Summary of Vital Statistics is also available on the Internet at the KDHE home page on the World Wide Web. The address is: <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/ches/>. For copies of this report please call (785-296-8627).

ADA Statement: If you desire a copy of this publication in alternative form because of a disability, contact the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, Office of Health Care Information, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 130, Topeka, KS 66612-1354, 785-296-8627, or 1-800-332-6262 (TDD/TT).